

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 05516 191359Z

46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-05 SAM-01 IO-13 DHA-02

NEAE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 ORM-02 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05 A-01 OPR-02 SCSE-00 SCA-01 ACDA-10

UOSS-00 SCCT-01 /119 W

----- 049541

P R 191315Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9201

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 5516

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE

SUBJECT: AUGUST 19 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORT LEBANESE SITUATION HAS  
SHARPLY DETERIORATED

1. PRESS CITED STATEMENT BY AL MEDIATOR DR. KHOULI CONCERNING  
SHARP DETERIORATION IN LEBANESE SITUATION AND PROPOSING  
EXPANSION IN SIZE OF ASF FROM 2,000 TO 10,000 TROOPS. IN  
AMMAN, PRESS NOTED LEBANESE ECONOMIC MINISTER USAYRAN CALLED  
FOR URGENT ARAB SUMMIT IF FIGHTING DID NOT END SOON.  
MORNING DAMASCUS RADIO ANNOUNCED THAT PRESIDENT ASAD HAD  
RECEIVED EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT FOR SYRIAN INITIATIVE IN  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 DAMASC 05516 191359Z

LEBANON FROM TANZANIANS AND LIBERIANS AT COLOMBO. PRESS

REPORTED CONTINUATION OF CLASHES IN LEBANON PREVIOUS DAY,  
WITH HEAVY ARTILLERY BARRAGE AIMED AT RESIDENTIAL  
SECTION OF BEIRUT NIGHT BEFORE LAST WHICH KILLED MANY  
AND CAUSED SIGNIFICANT PROPERTY DESTRUCTION. ALEY  
REGION WITNESSED MORE SHELLING.

2. IN INTERVIEW WITH TISHRIIN, KING HUSSEIN URGED  
ARABS TO SUPPORT SYRIAN INITIATIVE IN LEBANON AND  
CHARGED THAT FOREIGN HANDS WERE MASTERMINDING LEBANESE  
INCIDENTS. KING STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF SYRO-PALESTINIAN  
COHESION.

3. AL-BAATH COLUMNIST SAID THAT IF SADAT'S VOCAL  
SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS WAS GENUINE, HE SHOULD  
TRANSLATE WORDS INTO DEEDS. HE ADDED, "WE DO NOT PLAN  
TO SEPARATE OURSELVES FROM EGYPT FOREVER. IF WE  
FIND HIM AN INCLINATION TO WASH HIS HANDS OF  
SINAI AGREEMENT AND RETURN TO REAL SOLIDARITY, WE ARE  
READY. IF CAIRO REALLY WANTS TO SUPPORT PALESTINIANS  
AND STRIVES TO PRESERVE UNITY OF LEBANESE SOIL, LET  
IT GIVE EVIDENCE INSTEAD OF SUCH MUMBLINGS."  
MURPHY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, CIVIL DISORDERS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976DAMASC05516  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760318-0455  
**From:** DAMASCUS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760839/aaaabhvz.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AUGUST 19 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORT LEBANESE SITUATION HAS SHARPLY DETERIORATED  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SY, LE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006